

**“The Lamb,” “The Tyger,” “The Chimney Sweeper,” and “Infant Sorrow” by William Blake**  
**Literary Analysis: Symbols**

Poets sometimes create their own **symbols**, but frequently they draw on symbols that should be familiar to everyone. Such symbols come from religious texts such as the Bible, as well as from stories that are common throughout a culture, such as a fairy tale or a beloved book. The more associations the reader can make with a given symbol in a poem, the richer the appreciation of the poem.

**DIRECTIONS:** *Following are some of the symbols in Blake’s poetry. For each symbol, give one symbolic meaning and identify the source of the symbolic connection.*

1. lamb

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

2. fire

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

3. swaddling bands

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

4. child

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

5. anvil

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

6. angel

Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_